

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION REPORTKUO
569

COUNTRY

China

DATE DISTR. 13 April 1948

SUBJECT

Economic Information: Prospective Trade
with Sinkiang

NO. OF PAGES 1

25X1

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION FOR THE RESEARCH
USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS

1. Some of the Sarts who fled from Sinkiang in August 1947 have heard from friends and relatives in Sinkiang regarding the availability there of furs and skins such as lynx, marmot, and goat. They are hoping to set up some sort of trade arrangements between Tientsin fur dealers and traders in Sinkiang.
2. The Sarts went to the offices of the Yee Chang Trading Company, 133 Yalu Road, Tientsin, which is a combination of several old firms of fur dealers. The company was quite interested in the products the Sarts had to offer and indicated that it was in a position to provide 3-ton trucks for the Faotou-Lanchow, Lanchow-Tihua and Tihua-Fashgar sections of the route. From Faotou the goods would be placed on the railroad to Tientsin. It was even implied that if this route were cut off by the civil war a cargo plane would be used (from what point, unstated).
3. The Sarts were asked to return in a few days to inspect the goods which the company would have for exchange. The Sarts are buying silk to be sent to Sinkiang. After they left the Yee Chang Company, they sent a telegram to Tihua regarding the price of the goods offered, cost and availability of gasoline taxes and other expenses.

Document No. 07NO CHANGE in Class. DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C

DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REQ. 77/1

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